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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Toshiaki Ito *et al.*
Serial No. : 09/451,666
Filed : November 30, 1999
Title : BIOCHIP AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

Art Unit : 1655
Examiner : B. Forman

The Honorable Director of the
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants submit the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449, copies of which are enclosed. A copy of a communication from the European Patent Office in a counterpart application is also enclosed.

Please note that one of the references cited by the European Patent Office is written in the German language, namely EPO Application No. 0469445A1. We have therefore submitted the English-language equivalent of the above-identified foreign language reference, namely U.S. Patent No. 5,378,638

This statement is being filed after a first Office action on the merits, but before receipt of a final Office action or a Notice of Allowance. I, the undersigned, hereby certify that each item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, the communication being dated April 10, 2000, which is not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due with this statement. However, if it is determined that fees are owed, please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/19/00

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I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

June 19, 2000
Date of Deposit
Deborah Dean
Deborah Dean